



**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

Milton O'Haire
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

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Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES

June 2, 2014
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Conference Room H/I
8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Sherman Boone	Tracy Miller	Ed Perry
Roger Duncan	Jim Mortensen	Pamela Sweeten
John Herlihy	Tom Orvis	Wayne Zipser

Board Members Absent:

Carlos Estacio III Arby Hoobyar

Ex-Officio Board Members:

Supervisor Vito Chiesa – Present	Lisa Alamo, USDA-NRCS – Present
Jami Aggers, DER & Parks - Present	
Milton O'Haire, Ag Commissioner – Present	

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 5, 2014 MEETING

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the May 5, 2014 minutes.

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

John Herlihy spoke on behalf of the nominating committee and stated the committee decided that with the current issues going on it would be in the best interest to keep the current officers in place, therefore, Tom Orvis was nominated for the position of Chairman and Sherman Boone was nominated for Vice-Chairman.

It was M/S/P (unanimous), that Tom Orvis be elected to Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Board for the term beginning July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

It was M/S/P (unanimous), that Sherman Boone be elected to Vice-Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Board for the term beginning July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

V. REQUEST FROM EAST AND WEST STANISLAUS RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS FOR CONSIDERATION TO ENDORSE A LETTER TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING RECOMMENDATION TO DEVELOP AND SUPPORT A LOCALLY LED CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR STANISLAUS COUNTY

Chester Anderson from the East and West Stanislaus RCD requested feedback from the group regarding a draft letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending to develop and support a locally led conservation strategy for Stanislaus County. With County government support there would be more opportunities to simultaneously address water quality, flood management, and wildlife habitat needs with minimal impact to the agricultural sector and give a voice to the local community about how conservation plans affect their livelihoods, how the plans could be improved and what incentives exist for landowner participation. The Districts are asking the Stanislaus County Supervisors to recognize the Resource Conservation Districts as the go-to entity for conservation issues in Stanislaus County.

The Ag Advisory Board reviews agricultural issues as directed by the Board of Supervisors and is unable to recommend the letter at this point. It was advised that this letter first be directed to the Board of Supervisors for review and at some point may come back to the Ag Advisory Board for review and recommendation at the direction of the Board of Supervisors.

VI. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT STANISLAUS COUNTY PURCHASE AND SALE OF WALNUTS ORDINANCE AND FORWARDING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A final draft of the walnut ordinance was presented to members for review and possible recommendation. Agricultural Commissioner Milton O'Haire stated that a public meeting was held on May 21, 2014 and those in attendance were in support of the ordinance, had several positive comments, and some stated that the ordinance should go a "little further". If recommended, the draft ordinance would be taken to the Board of Supervisors mid-July.

A motion was made and it was M/S/P (unanimous) to Recommend Approval of the Draft Stanislaus County Purchase and Sale of Walnut Ordinance and Forwarding to the Board of Supervisors.

VII. ROUNDTABLE

Attendees provided general comments, updates on programs, and upcoming events and activities in their respective organizations.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, July 7, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I.

B. Agenda Items

✓ None

Please contact Milton O'Haire or Susan Azevedo with items you wish placed on the agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tom Orvis adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully
Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner's Office
Stanislaus County